

# 2017 CULLEN

## DIANA MADELINE CABERNET SAUVIGNON



**WINEMAKER:** Vanya Cullen  
**REGION:** Margaret River, Western Australia  
**VARIETALS:** Cabernet Sauvignon (81%), Merlot (10%), Petit Verdot (6%), Malbec (3%)  
**MATURATION:** 18 months in 100% French oak (40% new)  
**ALCOHOL:** 13.0% alc/vol

**A TRIBUTE TO A MARGARET RIVER PIONEER:** Diana Madeline Cullen will be remembered as one of the Australian wine industry's most remarkable women. Responsible for crafting the Cullen wines from 1981, Di handed the reins to her daughter, Vanya, in 1989, who was also awarded Australian Wine magazine's highly-esteemed "Australian Winemaker of the Year" award in 2000.

**WINEMAKING:** The length of the 2017 vintage gave the grapes time to develop aromatics and flavors not found in the shorter warmer seasons. The primary fermentation took an average 12 days. Skin contact time averaged 22 days. The wine was then matured in French oak for 18 months with 40% being new barrels. All Cullen wines are certified biodynamic with no additions.

**TASTING NOTES:** Fantastic complexity and vibrancy on the nose with layers of dark fruits complimented by some herbal notes. The palate is elegant and poised delivering blueberry, currant notes and some cacao bitterness. Another fantastic vintage for the Cullen flagship and to be enjoyed over the next few decades.

**CRITICAL ACCLAIM:** 98 pts/Best Cabernet & Family Halliday Wine Companion, 95 pts JamesSuckling.com, 94 pts Robert Parker Wine Advocate

**ABOUT CULLEN:** A founding winery of Margaret River, Cullen was established in 1971 by pioneering winemakers Kevin and Diana Cullen. In redefining the style of Australian Cabernet Sauvignon produced in the 1970s, the fledgling estate caught the attention of the nation. Since then, an unrelenting commitment to quality, integrity, and biodynamics has positioned Cullen as one of Australia's finest estates. Vanya Cullen, the founders' daughter, chief winemaker for more than 30 years, and 2019 Winemaker of the Year, is one of the country's trailblazers not only in biodynamics but also by establishing Australia's first certified carbon neutral winery.

